

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A tension mask frame assembly for a CRT comprising:
a substantially rectangular mask support frame having a first coefficient of thermal expansion and including a central major axis and a central minor axis perpendicular to each other, said frame having a pair of opposing long sides extending in parallel to the major axis and a pair of opposing short sides extending in parallel to the minor axis each sides having an outer peripheral surface and an inner peripheral surface;

a tension mask supported between a pair of support blade members, the support blade members each being attached to said frame at an attachment point along a respective one of the pair of said opposing sides; and

a detensioning member fixed along the peripheral surface of at least one of said sides and having a second coefficient of thermal expansion whereby said attachment points are drawn toward each other during thermal cycling of said mask frame assembly.

2. (original) A tension mask support frame assembly of claim 1 wherein said second coefficient of thermal expansion is relatively lower than said first coefficient of thermal expansion along said outer peripheral surface of said long sides and inner peripheral surface of said short sides.

3. (original) A tension mask support frame assembly of claim 1 wherein said second coefficient of thermal expansion is relatively higher than said first coefficient of thermal expansion along said inner peripheral surface of said long side and outer peripheral surface of said short sides.

4. (previously amended) In a cathode ray tube having a tension mask and frame assembly comprising:

a mask mounted in tension on a substantially rectangular frame, said frame having a first coefficient of thermal expansion and including a pair of opposing long sides and short sides disposed at generally a right angle with respect to the long sides with each of said sides connected to form a continuous generally planar frame having an inner and outer peripheral surface; and

detensioning members having a second coefficient of thermal expansion fixed along the peripheral surfaces of said sides wherein said second coefficient of thermal expansion of said detensioning members is relatively greater than said first coefficient of thermal expansion fixed along the outer surface of said short sides and inner surface of said long sides, and said second coefficient of thermal expansion is relatively lower than said first coefficient of thermal expansion fixed along the inner surface of said short sides and said outer surface of said long sides.

5. (previously amended) The cathode ray tube of claim 4 wherein said frame includes a pair of support blade members, each of the support blade members having at least one generally central attachment point for attaching each of said support blade members to a pair of said opposing sides of said frame.

6. (previously added) A tension mask support frame assembly of claim 1 wherein said opposing long and short sides lie in a frame plane.

7. (previously added) The tension mask support frame assembly of claim 6 wherein the peripheral surface along which the detensioning member is fixed lies generally orthogonal to the frame plane.

8. (previously added) The tension mask frame assembly of claim 7 wherein said frame includes a pair of support blade members, each support blade member having at least one generally central attachment point for attaching each of said support blade members to a pair of said opposing sides of said frame.

9. (previously added) A cathode ray tube comprising:

a glass envelope having a rectangular faceplate panel and a tubular neck extending from the rectangular faceplate panel through a funnel;

a phosphor screen carried by an inner surface of the faceplate panel;

an electron gun centrally mounted within the tubular neck for generating and directing electron beams toward the phosphor screen; and,

a tension mask frame assembly mounted between the electron gun and the faceplate panel; the tension mask frame assembly having a substantially rectangular mask support frame formed of a pair of opposing long sides extending parallel to a major axis and a pair of opposing short sides connected between the long sides and extending parallel to a minor axis to form a planar rectangular mask support frame, a tension mask supported on said frame between a pair of mounting locations, each being located on one of said opposing sides, and, a detensioning member being fixed along a peripheral surface of at least one of said sides, said detensioning member having a coefficient of thermal expansion which is different from the coefficient of thermal expansion of the frame whereby said mounting locations are drawn toward each other during thermal cycling of said mask frame assembly.

10. (previously added) The cathode ray tube of claim 9 further comprising a pair of support blade members being mounted to said tension mask frame assembly at said mounting locations.

11. (previously added) The cathode ray tube of claim 10 wherein said tension mask is fixed to said support blade members.

12. (previously added) The cathode ray tube of claim 9 wherein the opposing long and short sides lie in a common plane.

13. (previously added) The cathode ray tube of claim 12 wherein said detensioning member is fixed along a peripheral surface of one of said sides which is generally orthogonal to the common plane.